

Under the provisions of Section 413.031 of the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, Title 5, Subtitle A of the Texas Labor Code, effective June 17, 2001 and Commission Rule 133.305, titled Medical Dispute Resolution-General, and 133.307, titled Medical Dispute Resolution of a Medical Fee Dispute, a review was conducted by the Division regarding a medical fee dispute between the requestor and the respondent named above. This dispute was received on 5/12/03.

I. DISPUTE

Whether there should be reimbursement for psychiatric diagnostic interview - 90801, psychiatric evaluation of records - 90825, preparation of report - 90889 provided 7/11/02 and denied by the respondent for lack of preauthorization.

II. RATIONALE

Rule 134.600 (b)(1) states, "The insurance carrier is liable for all reasonable and necessary medical costs relating to the health care required to treat a compensable injury... when...

- (B) preauthorization of any health care listed in subsection (h) of this section was approved prior to providing the health care;"

Rule 134.600 (h) states, health care requiring preauthorization includes...(i)

- (4) all psychological testing and psychotherapy, repeat interviews, and biofeedback; except when any service is part of a preauthorized or exempt rehabilitation program;

The requestor disputes that preauthorization was required because they did not consider the service "testing" but instead an intake interview. On this same date of service, the requestor also billed 90825 – psychological evaluation of records. CPT code 90825 does not require preauthorization. It is recommended that 90825 be paid under the 1996 Medical Fee Guideline.

The report of 7/11/02 from the requestor states, "Provisional Diagnosis: ... Mood disorder due to general medical condition with mixed features... Global assessment of functioning scale score: 63... AXIS IV: 3 moderate..." Determining a diagnosis and assigning numbers to GAF and Psychosocial stressor scale score indicate "psychological testing" and therefore requires preauthorization.

The requestor did not make clear what records were examined, what tests were ordered or who reviewed the records. The "Provisional Diagnosis... Global Assessment of Functioning Scale Score... and psychosocial stressor scale score..." indicate testing which requires preauthorization. On this basis, reimbursement is not recommended.

III. DECISION & ORDER

Based upon the review of the disputed healthcare services within this request, the Division has determined that the requestor **is** entitled to reimbursement for psychiatric evaluation of records – 90825 in the amount of **\$120.00**. Pursuant to Sections 402.042, 413.016, 413.031, and 413.019 the Division hereby **ORDERS** the Respondent to remit **\$120.00** plus all accrued interest due at the time of payment to the Requestor within 20 days receipt of this Order.

The above Findings, Decision and Order are hereby issued this 19th day of December 2003.

Noel L. Beavers
Medical Dispute Resolution Officer
Medical Review Division

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